contributions, if so, the names of those agencies. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Book entitled 'A History of the Modern world from 1917 to 1980s'

1302. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the article "Facts speak for themselves" by Shri M. V. Kamath which appeared in the Times of India, New Delhi Sunday Review of April 20, 1986;

(b) whether a book entitled "A History of the Modern World from 1917 to 1980s" is in circulation in India; and

(c) whether Government propose to prescribe that book in view of the slanderous passages on the Father of the Nation and the total distortion of Indian men and matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The matter is under examination.

Aprehensions of Nuclear war due to Indo-Pak Clash

1303. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Times of India of 5th April. 1986 under the caption 'Indo-Pak clash can lead to nuclear War'; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what action Government propose to take to prevent such an eventuality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The non-peaceful dimension of Pakistan's nuclear programme has been a matter of concern for India. Government's policy continues to be the same as before, and Government keeps a close vigil on all developments having a bearing on the country's security.

Satellite launcher

1304. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Times of India of 5th April. 1986, under the caption 'Satellite launcher by 92: and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The major Indian Space Missions for the decade 1985—95 include the development of the following launch vehicles, viz., Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV), Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). and Geo-synchronous Launch Vehicle (GSLV). The first ASLV developmental flight, capable of placing 150 kg class payload in low earth orbit is scheduled for launch in 1986. The second developmental flight of ASLV is scheduled for 1987, with a nominal plan for 2 operational flights in 1989 and 1990. The first PSLV developmental flight capable of placing 1000 kg class payload in sun-synchronous polar orbit of 900 k.m. is scheduled for launch in 1989, followed by the second developmental

flight in 1991. Two operational flights are nominally projected for 1993 and 1995. The first GSLV developmental launch capable of placing 2.0 tonne INSAT-II class payload in Geo-synchronous transfer orbit is nominally planned for launch in 1992-93. Mission studies are in progress to arrive at a baseline vehicle configuration for GSLV. The technology elements and the choice of options for the cryogenic engine and stage have been studied in detail by the study team constituted for this perpose. The critical technology elements including the long-lead items requiring advance actions are being identified.

Financial Assistance to States

1305. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central financial assistance to the States for their annual plans has relatively gone down in 1986-87 i comparison to that; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No, Sir. Summary position is given below:—

(Rs. crores)

	1985-86 (Released)	1986-87 (Budget Estimate)
1. Normal Central assistance including assistance for externally aided projects	5473	5809
2. Special Central assistance for hill areas	167	189
3. Special Central assistance for tribal sub-plan	140	155
4. Special Central assistance for border area	..	40
5. Special Central assistance for North Eastern Council	104 (Revised Estimates)	125
TOTAL	5884	6318

It would thus be seen that the budget estimates of Central Assistance for the States' Annual Plan for 1986-87 is higher by Rs 434 crores than the amount actually released in 1985-86.

(b) Does not arise.

Appointments to candidates Selected in Assistants' Grade Examination

1306. SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Assistants' Grade examination was held by the Union Public service in September|October 1984 and its results declared in July 1985;

(b) whether it is also a fact that appointment letters have not yet been issued to individuals delared successful in that examination; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for delay, and when are the appointment letters likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.